

ESCAPES LYNNING.

Coot Lever Attempts Assault on White Woman.—Says He Was Under Spell.

The State.
Lexington, Nov. 1.—The usual quietness of Dutch Fork in the neighborhood of Piney Woods church was broken this afternoon about 1 o'clock by the dastardly but unsuccessful attempt of a negro to assault the wife of a prominent farmer of that section. News of the crime is meagre and nothing definite can be learned but it is stated that the negro who attempted the assault was a laborer on the place.

The woman is said to have been choked but the extent of her injuries can not be learned. Deputy Sheriff Miller left for the scene in an automobile this afternoon about 4 o'clock, carrying Sheriff Corley's faithful blood hounds with him.

Messages from Chapin by long distance phone state that the whole country round about is wrought up as never before and there is some probability of the negro being lynched if caught. Those who know the determination of Deputy Sheriff Miller, however, believe that once the negro gets in his possession the officer will see that no violence is done even though he must risk his own life.

NEGRO CAPTURED.

Coot Lever Arrested Near Chapin.—Mob Foiled.

By Long Distance Telephone.

Chapin, Nov. 1.—Coot Lever was captured at the home of John Reaze, a negro, at 9 o'clock to-night and is now, at 11 p. m., well on his way to Lexington in a buggy, in the custody of Deputy Sheriffs Miller and Roof, a mob of 100 men, which came to Chapin, having been evaded.

Lever was captured by Deputy Mider and Mr. Eleazer and has confessed to them that he made the attempted assault.

Soon after the negro was brought to Chapin a crowd of 100 men approached the station here. The negro was hustled some distance down the railroad track and then through briars and bushes. Then he was placed in a buggy and the deputies, as stated, hurried away with him towards Lexington.

The crowd at the station flagged the southbound Columbia, Newberry & Laurens train and searched it—some members of the mob going on the train towards Columbia.

The intended victim of the negro was choked and has bruises on her neck and shoulders, but is not seriously hurt. She screamed, the husband of the woman came to the rescue and the negro ran.

While at the station members of the mob asked questions as to the negro's whereabouts, none of which were answered. The members of the mob were armed with pistols and clubs.

Lever, the negro, is a young fellow. There is no doubt as to his guilt.

Narrow Escape of Coot Lever.

Coot Lever, who attempted a criminal assault on the wife of a prominent farmer in the Dutch Fork section of Lexington county about 9 o'clock Monday afternoon and was later captured and carried to Lexington jail by Deputy Sheriff Miller and Mr. Eleazer, after eluding a mob of considerable proportions, is now safe in the State penitentiary.

And thereby hangs the story of a record-breaking buggy ride from Lexington to Columbia of exactly 55 minutes. That the negro is alive and safely behind the walls of the State prison is due to the vigilance and prompt action of Sheriff Corley and Deputy Miller.

About noon yesterday the sheriff got news of the approach of a mob of 190 or more men, bent on taking the negro from the Lexington jail. Prompt to take advantage of the advance notice of the approach of the mob, the sheriff and deputy determined to bring the negro to the penitentiary before the mob could reach Lexington. No train was available; an automobile could not be had without delay, and with nothing left with which to make a quick journey but a horse and buggy, the negro was placed in the buggy and the start was made for Columbia.

To avoid his being seen was of as much importance almost as getting him to Columbia and with only a single-seated buggy this was a problem. But the deputy met the emergency by forcing the negro down into the foot of the buggy and covering him with a lap robe. Thus covered and hidden the start was made. The horse was slowed when parties were met and passed to avoid suspicion and then hurried on again as soon as they were out of sight. In this manner Columbia was reached

in safety in the quick time of 55 minutes. The sheriff, when asked how the negro could conceal himself so easily in the foot of the buggy, replied with a knowing smile that he guessed the negro thought the best thing to do was to make himself as small as possible.

The negro at the State penitentiary told a reporter of the State that he saw no hostile demonstration anywhere.

He admitted his guilt, saying he was the victim of an incurable malady and the herb doctor whom he had consulted had put a spell on him. He declared that this "conjurer" lives at the foot of Little Mountain. He had told Coot Lever that the latter would assault some white woman. The prisoner declared that the woman was in the yard hanging out clothes. When she ran he ran after her. She fell and screamed and he ran away.

John Robinson's Big Shows.

During the past season John Robinson received at his headquarters in Cincinnati, notes and circulars from the citizens of the smaller cities and towns in the South, requests to once more bring the show, in its entirety, to those towns which were the scenes of the earlier triumphs of the founder of this show, who is so well loved and so well-known to the people of the entire Southland.

John Robinson 3rd, the grandson of the founder, who is the present owner, is now endeavoring to comply with the wishes of those people to whom the show is so well-known, and the sons and grandsons of the early patrons of his show which has grown from the old wagon show of the past to one of great magnitude, requiring special trains of cars to move it from point to point. This is a great saver and great benefit to the people living in the towns in which he will visit. It will save them the extra expense of a long journey to the larger cities and will also benefit the merchants as it will bring customers to their very doors, instead of taking them to other points.

From what this journal can glean, the show has been doing a phenomenal business at each point visited, and John G. Robinson, the present manager, should feel proud of the ovation accorded him on account of

the reputation of his grandfather in the years of long ago.

Here, in the city of Newberry, at early dawn, vast crowds assembled on the highways, and representatives, not only from Newberry county, but adjacent counties, could be seen at each vantage point for the purpose of witnessing the grand scenic pageant.

EXCURSION RATES

To Augusta, Georgia, Via the Southern Railway.

Account of Georgia-Carolina Fair, Augusta, Ga., November 6-13, 1909, and Negro Fair November 16-19, 1909, the Southern Railway announces very low round trip rates. Tickets will be on sale to the Georgia-Carolina Fair November 6th to 12th and for trains scheduled to arrive Augusta before noon November 13th, final limit returning November 15th. Account of Negro Fair, excursion tickets will be on sale November 15th to the 19th, final limit returning November 21st. Many interesting attractions at Augusta for these occasions and President Taft will open the Georgia-Carolina Fair November 8th.

For further information call on ticket agents or

W. E. McGee,
T. P. A., Augusta, Ga.
J. L. Meek,
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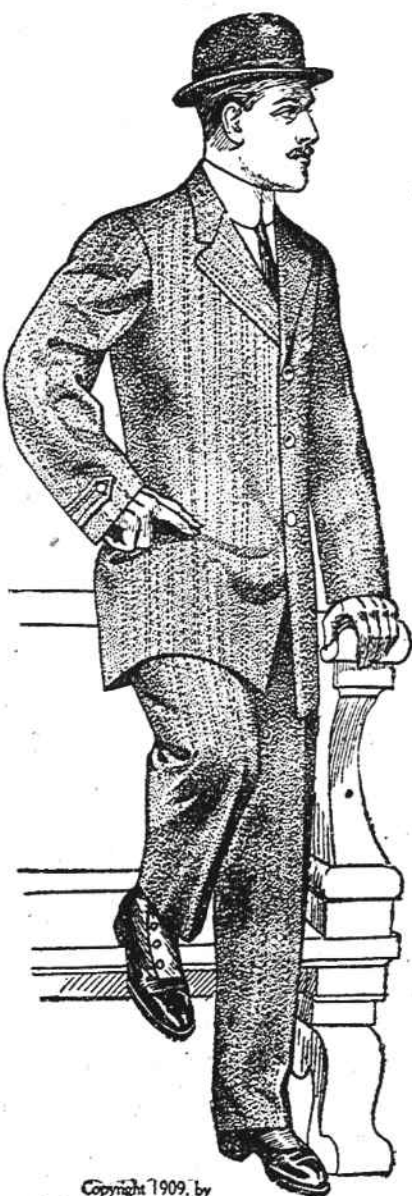
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